

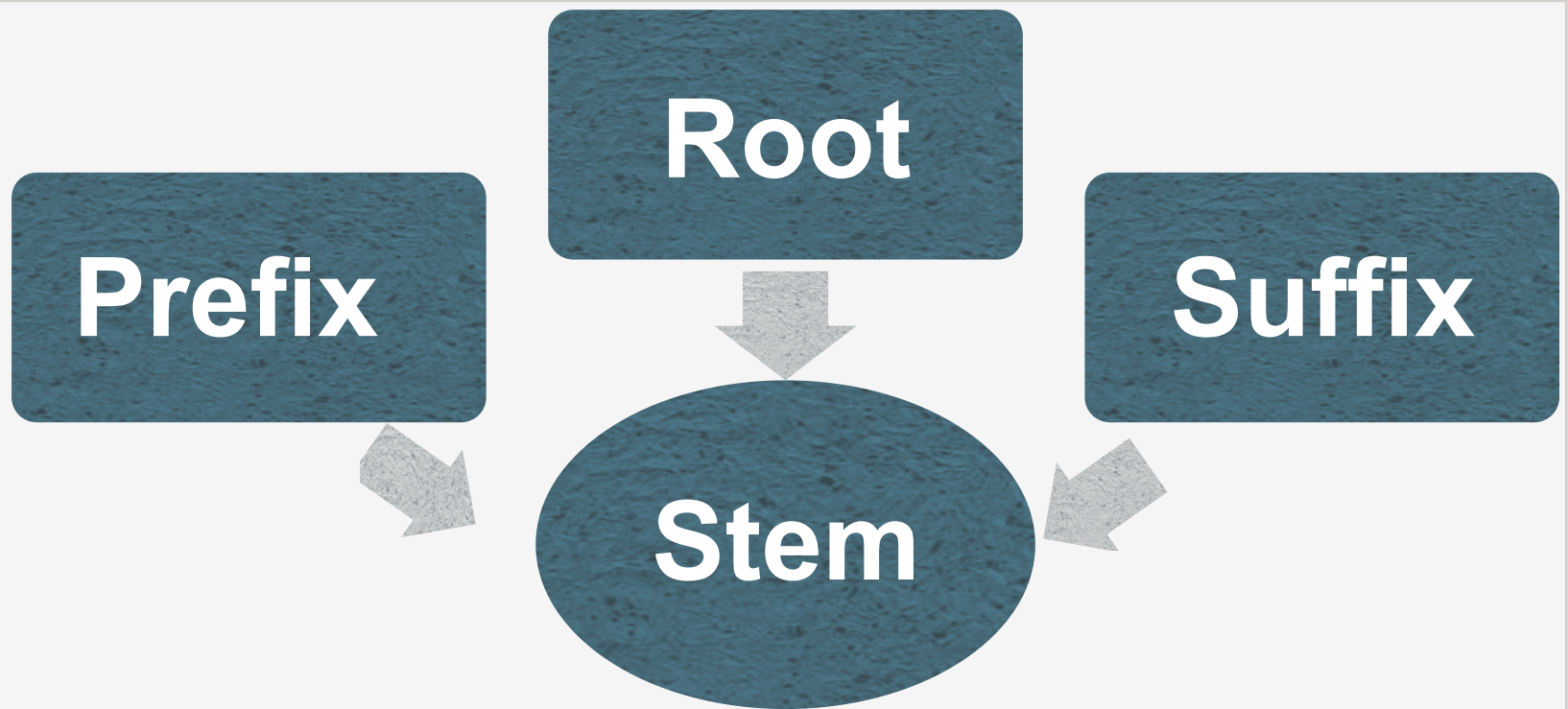
A Comprehensive Study of Latin Stems for Word Study & Academic Success

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Stems & Vocabulary

What are stems?



What does word *stem* mean?

- Words are made of fragments called prefixes, suffixes, affixes, and roots that form the words we use today.
- Every stem is a part of dozens of English words.
- Once you understand the stems, you understand thousands of words.
- Stems are prefixes, roots, and suffixes that combine to make the vocabularies of advanced subjects.

Why study Latin stems?

Michael Thompson reminds us:

- The English language includes thousands of Latin-based words.
- Many academic subjects are dominated by Latin words.
- Studying Latin-based words enhances learning.

Teaching Stems for Student Success

1. Practicing ***analogies*** can impact student test scores
2. Practicing ***antonyms, synonyms, and figurative language*** impacts students' literacy development
3. Learning ***stems*** can impact student test scores
4. Learning ***stems*** can enhance students' reading success
5. Learning ***stems*** can enhance the development of academic vocabulary

Curriculum

Sample Lesson

Bi-Sub-De-Pre-Super

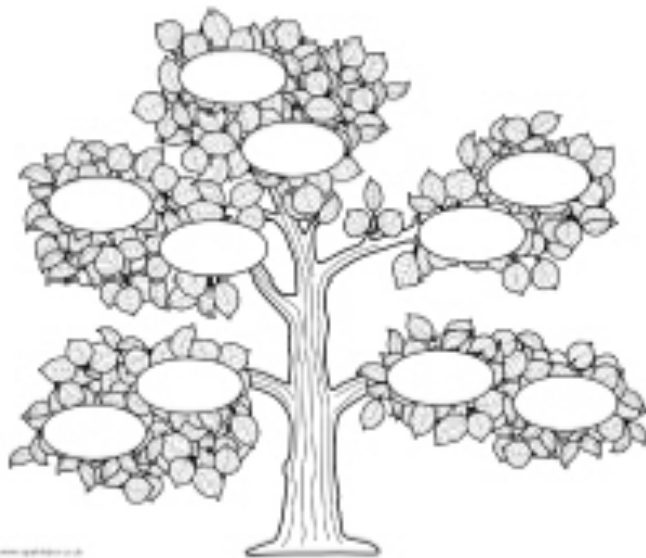
Source: Caesar's English I

Stems-Meaning-Examples

Stem	Meaning	Example
bi	two	A bicycle has two wheels. Bilateral means two-sided. A biped is someone with two feet (like you!).
sub	under	A submarine goes under the sea. Subtracting is a kind of math where you take away (pull under) one number from another.
de	down	To descend is to go down. To deposit is to put down. To deduce is to think your way down from a big truth.
pre	before	Predicting is announcing something before it even happens. To prepare is to get ready before an event.
super	over	To supervise is to watch over people. A superman is someone with powers over and above the norm.

Source: Caesar's English I

Word Trees



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Roots Trees

Click on a link to open up the tree. Highlighted roots occur most frequently.

abil handy	-able handy, capable of	abol destroy, get rid of	abs- away, from	ab- away, from	acerb bitter, sharp, tart	-acious inclined to, abounding
-acity characteristics of	acer sharp, keen, fierce	act drive, do	-acy state of being	ac sharp, keen, point	ac- to, towards	add attach to, add, give to
-ade thing or person	-ado possessing a quality	ad- to, towards	aesthet feel, perceive	affect influenced, strongly	af- to, towards	-age to do something
-age state	agog leading, drawing	agon struggle, contest,	agr field, country	ag do, act, drive	ag- to, towards	alg pain
all- other, different	alter another	alt high	-al action, process	al cause to grow, feed	-al of or relating to	al- to, towards
ambi- both	ambul walk, go around	amb- both, around	ami friend	ampl large	am love	ana- back
-ance state or condition	-ancy state	-and to be ...ed	-ane of or pertaining	ang distress	anim mind, spirit	ann year
ante- before	anthrop human	antiqu old	anti- opposite, against	-ant being in a state or ...	ant- opposite, against	anxi worried
an- not, without	-an relating to	an- to, towards	apo- away, from	apt suitable, fit	ap- to, towards	arbitr think, judge
arbor tree	arch ancient	arch- chief, principal	arch rule	arc chest, coffer	ard burn, be on fire	-arian pertaining to
articul to divide into small parts	art skill, craft	-ary person or thing	-ary of or relating to	-ar pertaining to	ar- to, towards	asper rough, harsh,
aster star	as- to, towards	-ate possessing a certain	-ate to make have a	-ation act of doing something	-ation state or quality of	-atory of or belonging to
at- to, towards	aud hear, listen to	augur diviner, seer	auth author	auto- self, same	au bird	av desire, be eager
a- away, from	a- not, without	-a forms a noun	a- to, towards, at	barr barrier	bar barrier	bas low, short

Comprehensive Elementary Program

1. Rockin' Root Words (grade 2)
2. Building Language (grade 3)
3. Caesar's English I (grade 4)
4. Caesar's English II (grade 5)

Activities

Vocabulary Building Activities

Caesar's Analogy Be sure to look up the meaning of the words in order to complete the analogies. Create your own analogy.	Caesar's Word Search Complete the Word Search. Answer the questions in your notebook.	Caesar's Grammar Recopy the sentences that you complete independently into your notebook and identify the parts of speech.	Julius Caesar Selection Read the selection to get the gist of the article. Reread the selection. Find the weekly vocabulary words, and use the context clues to define the words. Write the words and your definitions in your notebook.
Caesar's Synonyms Follow the directions on the activity. Be sure to use a dictionary or a thesaurus to look up the words you choose to explain. Record your work in your vocabulary notebook.	Caesar's Antonyms Use a dictionary or a thesaurus to help you find antonyms. Copy them into your notebook. Answer the questions, too.	Caesar's Rewrites Rewrite each sentence in your vocabulary notebook in ordinary, easy to understand words.	

Analogies

Many important academic tests contain analogies
(relationships that resemble each other).

PRELUDE : POSTLUDE::

1. tire : car
2. window : house
3. prologue : epilogue
4. red : sunset

DESCEND : ASCEND ::

1. bicycle : tricycle
2. submerge : emerge
3. man : superman
4. school : preschool

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1. Unity : Unanimity
2. 2 : 3
3. 3 : 2
4. Monogram : Trilogy
5. Multiply : Divide

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2. 2 : 3
3. **3 : 2**
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5. Multiply : Divide

Synonyms

Select the letter of the best synonym (the word most nearly the same as the word in bold).

1. to **bisect** a field a. plow b. halve c. dig into d. cross
2. a **bipartisan** effort a. Republican b. two-sided c. two-party d. divided
3. to **depict** a bullfight a. paint b. attend c. speak out against d. photograph
4. to **deviate** from habit a. Procrastinate b. learn c. hesitate d. stray

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Is the word used correctly?

- Five rivers **bisect** the plains.
- The estate is **bisected** by an irrigation canal.
- When you **bisect** an angle of 90 degrees, two 45 degree angles are produced.
- **Bisecting** an irregular area precisely is difficult.

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1. We resented the staff's **preemption** of the new library books.
2. The Great Depression **preempted** his hopes for college.
3. **Preempt** the bottles before returning them for a deposit.
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- One important **precept** of Chinese culture is a respect for elders.
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- According to automobile enthusiasts, the 1920's Dusenbergs remain the **superlative** classic car.
- There is only one Eiffel Tower, and it is **superlative**.
- Two **superlative** jazz singers, known for their individual styles, are Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.

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- Two **superlative** jazz singers, known for their individual styles, are Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.
- Anyone who has watched the tennis champion, Venus Williams, knows her to be a **superlative** player.

Academic Vocabulary Words

1. Bicameral

2. Sub Rosa

3. Debrief

4. Preexist

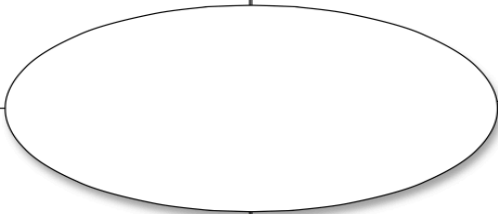
Source: Caesar's English I

Academic Vocabulary Words

1. **Bicameral** is an adjective that refers to a legislative body, such as a bicameral Congress that has two chambers.
2. **Sub Rosa** means done in secret.
3. **Debrief** is a verb that describes a formal questioning process such as the government might conduct after an agent returns from an important mission.
4. **Preexist** is a verb, but preexisting is a common adjective. The meaning refers to existing beforehand.
5. **Superannuated** means obsolete or out of date.

Frayer Model

Definition:	Characteristics/Facts:
Examples:	Non Examples:

The diagram is a Frayer Model, a tool used for concept learning. It consists of a large rectangle divided into four quadrants by a horizontal and a vertical line. In the center of the rectangle is an empty oval. The four quadrants are labeled: 'Definition:' in the top-left, 'Characteristics/Facts:' in the top-right, 'Examples:' in the bottom-left, and 'Non Examples:' in the bottom-right. The entire model is enclosed in a thick black border.

Frayer Model Examples – Guess the word/concept

Definition:

A change in size, shape or state of matter where the composition of the substance does not change

Facts/Characteristics:

New materials are not formed.
Same materials are present before and after change.

?

Examples:

Melting ice
Cutting hair
Dissolving sugar



Non Examples:

Burning wood
Baking a cake
Baking soda with vinegar
(carbon dioxide is produced)



(Source: Using Literacy Strategies in Mathematics and Science Learning in *Adolescent Literacy in Perspective*, 2009)

Lesson II Quiz

Define each *Caesar's English* word.

1. languor _____
2. profound _____
3. countenance _____
4. sub rosa _____
5. superannuated _____

For each definition, fill in the *Caesar's English* word.

6. obvious _____
7. huge _____
8. having two chambers _____
9. to question someone _____
10. existing beforehand _____

Define each stem that is in bold.

11. **deduce** _____
12. **superb** _____
13. **biped** _____
14. **prelude** _____
15. **submerge** _____

Bonus Questions

Identify the part of speech of the word in **bold**:

The country had a **bicameral** legislature. _____

The plan was prevented by a **superannuated** law. _____

CAESAR'S WORD SEARCH

In the puzzle, find the Latin-based English words that you see below. They might be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Always notice the stems that are in the words.

N R E R R P R X D B S B B G E
L A D T F E S G A D U C E F I
A M R C D C N P T S P C X M I
N A L B M N R T S U E E P E R
G N L C T A M T U O R T M X E
U I L D S N P X O I A U R R C
O F D B U E U X U G N T B E U
R E N P B T S G L I N U I D D
C S U R N N U F F D U P C U E
R T O E R U B E R O A R A L D
G X F E O O T I E R T E M E U
D X O X S C R R P P E D E R F
E M R I A M A B U U D I R P O
U N P S G P C E S L O C A O N
F N C T N M T D O P I T L N F

countenance	languor	preexist	deduce
profound	bicameral	superannuated	prelude
manifest	<i>sub rosa</i>	superfluous	subtract
prodigious	debrief	predict	